North Central Regional Transit District
Board Meeting
Friday, April 8, 2016
Pueblo of Tesuque
Camel Rock Casino Show Room
Tesuque, New Mexico
9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER:

A regular meeting of the North Central Regional Transit District Board was called to order on the above date by Mayor Daniel Barrone, Chair, at 9:11 a.m. at the Camel Rock Casino Show Room, Tesuque, New Mexico.

Charlie Dorame welcomed everyone to the meeting in Tesuque and Camel Rock Casino. Honor to have the Board here. He is glad we continue to meet around the region. On behalf of Governor Vigil, he sends his regards.

1. **Pledge of Allegiance**
2. **Moment of Silence**
3. **Roll Call**

Ms. Trujillo called the roll and it indicated the presence of a quorum as follows:

Members Present:	**Elected Members**	**Alternate Designees**
Los Alamos County	*Councilor Pete Sheehey*	
Rio Arriba County		*Mr. Tomás Campos*
Taos County	*Commissioner Jim Fambro*	
Town of Taos	*Mayor Daniel Barrone, Chair*	
Santa Fe County	*Commissioner Miguel Chávez*	

Nambé Pueblo	Absent	
Ohkay Owingeh	*Christy Van Buren*	
Pojoaque Pueblo		*Ms. Anna Sanchez*
Santa Clara Pueblo		*Ms. Mary Lou Valério*
City of Santa Fe	*Councilor Joseph Maestas*	*Mr. Isaac Pino*
San Ildefonso Pueblo		*Ms. Lillian Garcia*
Tesuque Pueblo	*Gov. Charles Dorame*	
City of Española		*Councilor John Hernandez*
Town of Edgewood	*Councilor Chuck Ring*	
Rio Metro (ex officio)	*Ms. Elizabeth Carter*	

Staff Members Present
Mr. Anthony J. Mortillaro, Executive Director
Ms. Stacey McGuire, Projects and Grants Manager
Mr. Jim Nagle, Public Information Officer
Mr. Troy Bingham, Finance Director
Ms. Jackie Trujillo, Executive Assistant
Ms. Annette Granillo, Transit and Facilities Operations Director
Mr. Leo Valencia, Driver II
Ms. Daria Veprek, Human Resources Director

Others Present
Mr. Peter Dwyer, Legal Counsel
Mr. Carl Boaz, Stenographer
Mr. Ray Matthews, Santa Fe County
Mr. David Harris, NMDOT
Mr. George Brooks, Ski New Mexico

4. INTRODUCTIONS

Those present introduced themselves to the group after the agenda and minutes and awards were considered.

5. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Councilor Sheehey moved to approve the Agenda as presented Commissioner Chávez seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous (12-0) roll call vote with Town of Edgewood, Los Alamos County, Ohkay Owingeh, Pojoaque Pueblo, City of Española, City of Santa Fe, Santa Fe County, San Ildefonso Pueblo, Santa Clara Pueblo, Taos County and Town of Taos, Tesuque Pueblo voting in favor and none voting against. Rio Arriba County was not present for the vote.

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – March 4, 2016

Commissioner Chávez moved to approve the minutes of March 4, 2016 as submitted. Councilor Ring seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous (11-0-1) roll call vote with Town of Edgewood, Los Alamos County, Ohkay Owingeh, Pojoaque Pueblo, City of Española, Santa Fe County, San Ildefonso Pueblo, Santa Clara Pueblo, Taos County, Tesuque Pueblo and Town of Taos voting in favor and none voting against. City of Santa Fe abstained and Rio Arriba County, was not present for the vote.

7. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

PRESENTATION ITEMS:

A. Introduction of Annette Granillo, Transit and Facilities Operations Director

Mr. Mortillaro introduced Ms. Annette Granillo to fill the Transit and Facilities Operations Director position.

Ms. Granillo thanked the Board for the opportunity to serve and is happy to be here. For 20 years she worked as Transit Administrator for City of Santa Fe and looks forward to working with the team.

B. Recognition of Leo Valencia, Driver II – NMTA Award at the Annual Road-eo, First Place for the Cutaway Bus

Chair Barrone welcomed Mr. Valencia to the meeting.

Mr. Mortillaro announced his award at the Annual NMDOT competition, winning first place for the cutaway bus. This is the second time for him to win. So he will go to national competition. The Annual Conference is in Portland and he will represent the NCRTD there. The Board members congratulated him.

Mr. Mortillaro added that Mr. Valencia lives in Taos and was among those who were in the Taos transit group who merged with the NCRTD.

ACTION ITEMS:

C. Discussion and Consideration of Election of Officers

Mr. Mortillaro reminded the Board that every two years, the officers are elected by the Board. Chair, Vice-Chair and Secretary/Treasurer. Officers have to be elected official representatives.

Commissioner Fambro moved to elect Councilor Dan Barrone to serve another two-year term as Chair. Commissioner Chávez seconded the motion and he was elected by unanimous (12-0) roll call vote with Town of Edgewood, Los Alamos County, Ohkay Owingeh, Pojoaque Pueblo, City of Española, City of Santa Fe, Santa Fe County, San Ildefonso Pueblo, Santa Clara Pueblo, Taos County, Tesuque Pueblo and Town of Taos voting in favor and none voting against. Rio Arriba County was not present for the vote.

Mr. Tomás Campos arrived for Rio Arriba County at 9:34 a.m.

Ms. Van Buren moved to reelect Commissioner Chávez as Vice-Chair. Commissioner Fambro seconded the motion. Governor Dorame moved to elect Commissioner Chávez as Vice-Chair by acclamation. Councilor Ring seconded the motion and he was elected by unanimous voice vote.

Commissioner Chávez thanked the Board for opportunity to serve as Vice-Chair for the past two years and looked forward to more in the future.

Commissioner Chávez moved to re-elect Dennis Tim Salazar to continue serving as Secretary/Treasurer. Governor Dorame seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous (13-0) roll call vote with Town of Edgewood, Los Alamos County, Ohkay Owingeh, Pojoaque Pueblo, Rio Arriba County, City of Española, City of Santa Fe, Santa Fe County, San Ildefonso Pueblo, Santa Clara Pueblo, Taos County, Tesuque Pueblo and Town of Taos voting in favor and none voting against.

D. Discussion and Consideration of NCRTD Board Attendance Report, April 2015-March 2016

Mr. Mortillaro said the by-laws call for an annual attendance report to be made to the Board each April. Page 24 is the report for April 2015 through March 2016. No action is required.

Councilor Sheehey moved to accept the report. Commissioner Chávez seconded the motion.

Mr. Campos was not sure it was accurate. He thought many times when someone shows up later in the meeting it might not get recorded.

Mr. Mortillaro believed it is accurate. He said the information is taken from the minutes. He said Staff will double-check that, but he thought the report is accurate.

Councilor Sheehey moved to table this matter for an accuracy check. Commissioner Chávez seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous - by roll call vote - unanimous (13-0) roll call vote with Town of Edgewood, Los Alamos County, Ohkay Owingeh, Pojoaque Pueblo, Rio Arriba County, City of Española, City of Santa Fe, Santa Fe County, San Ildefonso Pueblo, Santa Clara Pueblo, Taos County, Tesuque Pueblo and Town of Taos voting in favor and none voting against.

E. Discussion and consideration of Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) Between Los Alamos County (LAC) and North Central Regional Transit District (NCRTD)

Mr. Mortillaro said Los Alamos County has made an annual contribution to the District though an MOU. He reviewed the agreement. It memorializes their contribution which, for 2016 is $350.000. It has been declining each year. And in the future, they hope to hold the number constant, if possible. They have been extremely generous. Their initial 5-year support was very important to get the District started and providing services to the four-county area. In the prior agreement there was a contribution of $500,000 as a revolving fund used to cover expenses until the federal reimbursements were received. Since then, the District has made progress and renewed the revolving fund.

Councilor Sheehey said Los Alamos County has appreciated the huge progress of the District so we are happy to continue this support and there are no restrictions on the $500,000 revolving fund. In the most recent audit it is completely clean and the reserve policy has been honored. So District is free to use that fund. In maintaining $350,000 year to year. He pledged to do his best to continue it but is only one vote of 7 on the Council. Overall, the County and the Council is very pleased with the District's work.

Councilor Maestas moved to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between Los Alamos County and the North Central Regional Transit District as proposed. Commissioner Chávez seconded the motion.

Councilor Maestas thanked Los Alamos County. It has been a very wise investment and he echoed Mr. Mortillaro that since the LANL contract was privatized in 2006, the County and State realized a windfall and their decision to share that with the District has been a great benefit to the District. He thanked them and hoped they will consider this investment to continue with stable base and funding. On the record we acknowledge their generosity.

The motion passed by unanimous (13-0) roll call vote with Town of Edgewood, Los Alamos County, Ohkay Owingeh, Pojoaque Pueblo, Rio Arriba County, City of Española, City of Santa Fe, Santa Fe County, San Ildefonso Pueblo, Santa Clara Pueblo, Taos County, Tesuque Pueblo and Town of Taos voting in favor and none voting against.

F. Discussion and Consideration of Resolution No. 2015-14 (R) Re-Adoption FY 2016 Budget

Mr. Bingham described this item as a housekeeping item. He explained that there is no change in revenue or expense but the DFA noticed the beginning cash balance on page 36 was for the ending year 2014 and $1,155,279 is the correct balance at the end of 2015 and that needs to be used instead. It needs

the Board approval just for that.

Commissioner Chávez asked if this was part of any audit findings.

Mr. Bingham clarified that it is not an audit finding. It was just that the District did not have that balance amount available at the time the budget was approved.

Commissioner Chávez moved to approve the budget (cash) adjustment in Resolution 2015 -14 (last paragraph). Councilor Sheehey seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous (13-0) roll call vote with Town of Edgewood, Los Alamos County, Ohkay Owingeh, Pojoaque Pueblo, Rio Arriba County, City of Española, City of Santa Fe, Santa Fe County, San Ildefonso Pueblo, Santa Clara Pueblo, Taos County, Tesuque Pueblo and Town of Taos voting in favor and none voting against.

G. Discussion and Approval of Contract – Financial Audit Services

Mr. Mortillaro described the process with an RFP. As a result, the Finance Subcommittee recommended Hinkle-Landers to do the audit.

Mr. Bingham said it is a one-year contract. They began in January 2016 with a long 91-page RFP which is in the packet and shows the required recommendations from the firms on other government work. Five firms submitted proposals. That was narrowed it to four for oral presentations that were heard on March 8. They recommended Hinkle-Landers. A letter from the State Auditor on page 127 directs that only a one-year contract be established with Hinkle-Landers because of a change in the state audit rules requiring that an audit firm be rotated every six years. This would be their 9th year and the District will have to start over again on this process again next year. The second runner-up is also identified as required by the State Auditor.

Mr. Dwyer said Mr. Bingham contacted him after the letter was received and he had two comments. What happened here was that the contract was awarded March 8 and rules were changed on March 15 and there was a dispute between the State Auditor and Hinkle-Landers about applying that new rule (retroactively) to this contract. It could implicate us if it goes further. On page 120 is a date of February 15, 2015 as the deadline for deliverables and that is not doable. If the Board approves the contract, it should be amended to have a date of February 15, 2017. Apparently, the State Auditor computer could not make that change. He was a little concerned that the contract be correct.

Councilor Sheehey asked if the State Auditor said we could go ahead with a one-year contract, meaning it is not 3-year contract.

Mr. Dwyer agreed, although Hinkle-Landers is not happy about it. We hope not to be part of that dispute. The best way to avoid that is a one-year contract and then, a year from now, it can get resolved.

Councilor Sheehey commented that Hinkle-Landers is very highly rated audit firm. They can look at the data and help the District operate more efficiently.

Commissioner Chávez moved to authorize the Executive Director to execute a one-year audit contract with Hinkle-Landers for fiscal 2016 audit in the amount of $23,581.00. Chair Barrone seconded the motion.

Councilor Maestas requested a friendly amendment to change the deliverable date to February 15, 2017.

Commissioner Chávez said the amendment is friendly to the maker.

Commissioner Chávez thanked the subcommittee and staff for pulling this all together.

The motion passed by unanimous (13-0) roll call vote with Town of Edgewood, Los Alamos County, Ohkay Owingeh, Pojoaque Pueblo, Rio Arriba County, City of Española, City of Santa Fe, Santa Fe County, San Ildefonso Pueblo, Santa Clara Pueblo, Taos County, Tesuque Pueblo and Town of Taos voting in favor and none voting against.

H. Discussion and Consideration of Resolution 2016-11 Authorizing Federal Funding Through the FFY 2016 Tribal Transportation Program for Operating and Capital for New Transit Service to Jicarilla and Dulce and Future Transit Projects

Mr. Mortillaro recalled that about a year ago Rio Arriba County asked the District to consider service to the Jicarilla Apache Nation and Dulce and Staff looked for funding for that service. Ms. McGuire has been working on that.

Ms. McGuire said the request for new service was submitted a year and a half ago. She found some funds in discretionary transit funds for tribes for service expansion and new service as well as capital outlay. Staff met with representatives from Jicarilla and talked about funding mechanisms collaborating and moving forward. A survey is being distributed throughout Jicarilla today which she briefly described.

In addition, there is also an opportunity for a regional tribal travel training program for new and unfamiliar riders regarding how to use the bus. Lots of times, people might feel uncomfortable using it. There is a benefit from using a regional perspective to provide these resources to tribal members and possible expansion throughout the District.

She reached out to Board tribal members and requested information on how the training falls into our program. There is a $25,000 match required and the District might be limited to $25,000 for training unless it falls under expansion where it would not be limited.

Ms. McGuire recommended negotiating with Jicarilla and approval and support for the Staff recommendation to implement the tribal travel training program. She would need to have the six member tribes on that board as well as the District Board. Jicarilla would submit for three different levels of service and it would be up to the funding source to decide the frequency of service. It could be attached to the Chama Route. Based on the service level, it could be $65,000 to $115,000 and a 14-passenger bus.

The program requires a 10% local match and Jicarilla has committed to the match. For the training program, it would call for one 20 hours per week position and a 10% local match. The District would provide the local match.

Ms. Van Buren asked if it was from FTA or a program of FHWA.

Ms. McGuire said this is FTA but FHWA is allowed also.

Ms. Van Buren noted that it is very competitive process. She asked if the Jicarilla Nation or the District is the applicant.

Ms. McGuire said, at this point, they are leaning to them being the applicant.

Ms. Van Buren asked if there would be a 2% cap for administrative expenses.

Ms. McGuire said, depending on the direction today, if the Board approves, she will have to flesh that out. This is our first time for this funding and for collaborating with a current non-member. So there are some learning opportunities for us in the process.

Commissioner Chávez asked for clarification on this. It appeared that one resolution would approve the application and a second would be to develop and implement the tribal travel training program. Both are in this resolution. He asked if there is a blueprint to use for the training or if it a new area.

Ms. McGuire said it is a new area but relatively common throughout national transit. It is another avenue to increase ridership.

Governor Dorame had that concern also. He asked if one was dependent upon the other.

Ms. McGuire said everything is competitive. There are two applications but Jicarilla will apply for the service and the District will apply for the training program.

Governor Dorame said if Jicarilla is not willing to become a District member, then the District shouldn't do it. He requested that the Board vote separately on each part.

Mr. Mortillaro agreed that could be done and if the Board wants two separate resolutions, it could be done. He pointed out that the NCRTD does provide service to pueblos that are not members like Taos Pueblo. Ideally, we would like to have all pueblos as members in our district but it doesn't impact our ability to serve them.

Councilor Sheehey asked if taking the time to split the resolutions for next month would cause problems for getting these applications in.

Ms. McGuire said there is time to split them and she could bring them back to the May 6 meeting.

Governor Dorame said he would be more comfortable with splitting them.

Councilor Sheehey moved to approve the resolution as amended with the parts dealing with the training project deleted, leaving the request for Jicarilla new service. Commissioner Chávez seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous (13-0) roll call vote with Town of Edgewood, Los Alamos County, Ohkay Owingeh, Pojoaque Pueblo, Rio Arriba County, City of Española, City of Santa Fe, Santa Fe County, San Ildefonso Pueblo, Santa Clara Pueblo, Taos County, Tesuque Pueblo and Town of Taos voting in favor and none voting against.

I. Discussion and Approval of Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between NCRTD and member Pueblos for Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2015 & 2016 Tribal Transit Program (TTP) §5311(c) Funds

Mr. Bingham referred to page 140 and noted that they are a little past due but FY 15 was a unique year so the numbers and appropriations changed throughout the year. $181,476 is the correct number. The $128,500 is what is expected for the tribes. The MOAs are unique to each tribe so there are four different MOAs in the packet.

Councilor Sheehey noted that the amount for most of these are greater than 2015.

Mr. Bingham said the funding is from a pot of $25 million and split as new tribes join. We believe ridership is the biggest component and the population of the pueblos helps.

Councilor Sheehey asked about the life of the funding.

Mr. Bingham said the funding is good for life. We have one from 2012. He added that San Ildefonso is not in packet but it is signed.

Ms. Van Buren moved to approve the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between NCRTD and member Pueblos for Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2015 & 2016 Tribal Transit Program (TTP) §5311(c) Funds. Chair Barrone seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous (13-0) roll call vote with Town of Edgewood, Los Alamos County, Ohkay Owingeh, Pojoaque Pueblo, Rio Arriba County, City of Española, City of Santa Fe, Santa Fe County, San Ildefonso Pueblo, Santa Clara Pueblo, Taos County, Tesuque Pueblo and Town of Taos voting in favor and none voting against.

The Board took a brief break and then resumed business.

J. Discussion and Consideration of Resolution 2016-12 Authorizing the NCRTD Staff to apply for Federal funding through the FFY 2016 TIGER Grant Program for the following project: A Maintenance Facility, Wash Bay, and Fueling Station

Ms. McGuire explained the TIGER funds process for this year. The District would request $5.8 million with a required local match. It is a phased plan so they can award each component separately.

Councilor Sheehey noted at present we need such a facility. And at minimum, a wash bay.

Mr. Mortillaro said at this point, we are not sure about the City of Santa Fe maintenance facility and CNG facilities. All of that would be looked at. We would simply compensate them for the use if they are not acquired for the District.

Commissioner Chávez asked Mr. Pino to share information from the City, in the event we consolidated, Santa Fé Trails has a facility on Rufina.

Mr. Pino agreed.

Commissioner Chávez asked, if we consolidate the two services, whether the District would need to expand those facilities for the regional system.

Mr. Pino said the specific needs are not yet known.

Mr. Mortillaro agreed and said those details would have to be worked out.

Ms. Granillo clarified that those facilities are already used from early in the morning until very late at night. There is one wash bay - so washing could be done.

Councilor Ring moved to approve Resolution 2016-12 Authorizing the NCRTD Staff to apply for Federal funding through the FFY 2016 TIGER Grant Program for the following project: A Maintenance Facility, Wash Bay, and Fueling Station. Commissioner Fambro seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous (13-0) roll call vote with Town of Edgewood, Los Alamos County, Ohkay Owingeh, Pojoaque Pueblo, Rio Arriba County, City of Española, City of Santa Fe, Santa Fe County, San Ildefonso Pueblo, Santa Clara Pueblo, Taos County, Tesuque Pueblo and Town of Taos voting in favor and none voting against.

K. Discussion and Consideration of Resolution 2016-13 Authorizing NCRTD Staff to apply for Non-Rural Operational, Administrative and Capital Funding for routes and Transit Services Deemed Non-Rural in Nature, Section 5307

Mr. Mortillaro said the District wants to apply for this funding which comes through the State.

Ms. McGuire explained the program which was detailed in the packet. It is something new for the District although the District has always been rural. It was determined that two routes do not qualify as rural routes - Mountain Trail and La Cienega. So those are not eligible for 5311 funds but are eligible through 5307 funds (small urbanized area). They would apply directly to FTA. She referred to page 256 for the fiscal impact. It is an 80/20 split and requires $60,000 for La Cienega. The total for those routes is $238,000, not $237,000 as on the Resolution.

Commissioner Chávez asked regarding the Mountain Trail Route if we would still need private/public partnership for advertising, etc.

Ms. McGuire said that is covered in the next item. It is something that has policy questions for Board direction.

Commissioner Chávez moved to approve Resolution 2016-13 Authorizing NCRTD Staff to apply for Non-Rural Operational, Administrative and Capital Funding for routes and Transit Services Deemed Non-Rural in Nature, Section 5307. Councilor Sheehey seconded the motion.

Councilor Maestas asked if this would compete with City of Santa Fé funding requests.

Ms. McGuire agreed that it would.

Mr. Mortillaro said that is reason that we asked for authorization for those routes. This is to apply for the 5307 process.

Councilor Maestas asked, since the routes are within the MPO area, why it wouldn't go through the MPO first and then come to the Board.

Mr. Mortillaro said he chose not to go through the MPO process prior to seeking Board direction. It is separate funding and a competitive process with other areas throughout the state. So this is to ask if the Board if it wants Staff to continue forward with an application.

Councilor Maestas said the City of Santa Fé has supported the Mountain Trail but he thought it was great to have public/private partnership and not pursue federal funds. That did not affect the City's funding efforts. He would rather see it go through the MPO process first. He asked Mr. Pino if it would be detrimental to City's efforts for urban transit funds.

Mr. Pino said he didn't hear anything that sounded detrimental.

Mr. Mortillaro explained that if the District is going to continue the Mountain trail, we have to find another source of funding for it.

Councilor Maestas asked if the local match would come from the District.

Ms. Van Buren said the MPO is an obligated process for 5311 funds. The MPO process is part of the application process

Mr. Harris clarified that rural funding goes through the RPOs. Typically, DOT is not very involved with urban areas in this program. The City of Santa Fé is the only one applying for 5307 and funding is part of the Governor's portion. Formula funding is in place for Santa Fé. For 2016, it is the 2014 data that punched out the appropriation. So the Mountain Trail report is two years out. The traditional process has MPO as the form to work out disagreements or who gets how much funding. Rio Metro - with the Rail Runner is based on ridership. So Rio Metro and the City of Albuquerque also get 5307 by formula and they have an agreement that works through the MPO. We can work out something similar with SFMPO.

Councilor Maestas reasoned that Mountain Trails and La Cienega could be seen as part of SFMPO area and funds are fixed by the formula.

Mr. Harris said 5307 is all based on a performance basis with a 2-year lag. The small urban areas have gotten the short end of the stick last few years on transit. So that has not grown. He added that the DOT is not likely to make a unilateral decision. They prefer that it work through this process.

The motion to approve passed on a unanimous (13-0) roll call vote with Town of Edgewood, Los Alamos County, Ohkay Owingeh, Pojoaque Pueblo, Rio Arriba County, City of Española, City of Santa Fe, Santa Fe County, San Ildefonso Pueblo, Santa Clara Pueblo, Taos County, Tesuque Pueblo, and Town of Taos voting in favor and none voting against.

L. Discussion and Consideration of 255 Mountain Trail Pilot Route, Board Direction on Continuation of Pilot Route and Proposed Modifications

Mr. Mortillaro reported that the Mountain Trail first season has concluded. Because we are in the process of developing funding for 2017, we are reporting on the pilot program and discussing the future of it.

Ms. McGuire shared the data and findings. She thanked all who have been involved. It was a huge undertaking and got full support from everyone on the collaboration. The report is on page 258 of the Board packet.

She said they have to gear up for budget now. Unanticipated challenges occurred. Most were relatively small bumps in the road. One was on vehicle restrictions (fed funded), delay in vehicle delivery, bike racks, etc. Insurance with USFS required special language. There were many lessons learned.

Ridership projections used a 3% of annual visitors to Santa Fé National Forest. They estimated ridership at 10,000 winter and 2,000 non-winter but didn't see that much. Projecting ridership in the future depends on snow fall. We were happy to see the early snow. Without snow, ridership would be impacted. Peak ridership happened between December 26 and January 2. Massaging the schedule is important to get people up the mountain. What is best is to secure 5307 funding. It would take until 2019 for that funding. So the question is how to fund it until 2019. Fare box collection was very impressive. Do we want credit card option? What would that cost to implement?

They asked riders to complete a survey and got 36 completed. A challenge encountered was traffic congestion on the road. There was one vehicle accident but we were not at fault. It had no injuries and minimal damage. We are proud of our drivers for keeping riders safe.

Page 260 has a graph on averages. The actual was not far below the expected numbers. For a first year, we held our own on it. She referred to the handout on a comparison with Taos Ski Valley. Taos has operated for several years with established ridership. In December, Mountain Trail ridership was phenomenal. There is an opportunity for Mountain Trail ridership to grow.

Staff is recommending that the route continue through FY 2017 with modifications based on demand and re-evaluate winter and non-winter service. It depends on continuing support for partners. We need that commitment to move forward. It also depends on the value of using a leased vehicle or to buy that vehicle. They also need to collaborate for traffic mitigation on NM 475 to further safety.

They can explore options with Rio Metro on Rail Runner promotion. There are options here.

Commissioner Chávez appreciated her recommendations to partner with the established partners.

Commissioner Chávez moved to direct staff to continue working on this and follow the five bullet points in the report. He invited George Brooks, representative of Ski New Mexico, to comment.

Mr. Brooks said the ski industry throughout New Mexico had a good first half of season. The Taos Ski Valley supports the community as well as skiers. But Ski Santa Fé is just skiers. During the partnership. Ski Santa Fé brought value to the table and supported advertising. As a Tourism commissioner for New Mexico, he felt it was a good decision on their part.

Councilor Maestas seconded the motion.

Councilor Maestas reminded the Board that there is no guarantee of a good snow season. His recommendation would be to try to diversify the riders. There are many trails there, if we can accommodate that during the year. There are also commercial businesses like Ten Thousand Waves and Hyde Park State Park to help sustain the routes. There are other potential beneficiaries to get better success.

Councilor Sheehey supported the motion and asked Mr. Dwyer for comment on legal issues.

Mr. Dwyer said there is a meeting scheduled with the Forest Service already. We've done our part and done legal and fact analysis. We just have not had a chance to meet yet.

Mr. Mortillaro said this route has been good pilot. The City gave the use of Fort Marcy to pick up riders. Rio Metro contributed and also Ski Santa Fé. He is optimistic for the future. Hopefully it will be better with no more one-time costs.

Commissioner Chávez asked what kind of message the District is sending on behalf of pueblos.

Governor Dorame didn't want to prolong the discussion. When the issue came up there was also comments on comparison with Highway 14. He preferred funding service to people who need transportation. There are events happening on the mountain. He found out from the newspaper about some people who needed shelter in the bad weather. This service helped people go up and party. That is disrespectful to his tribe. He hated to be the bad guy in this but felt it was an insult to his people.

Commissioner Chávez appreciated that and was sensitive to that. But this pilot project is different from Highway 14 because it doesn't take money away from other routes.

The motion to approve passed by majority (12-0-1) roll call vote with Town of Edgewood, Los Alamos County, Ohkay Owingeh, Pojoaque Pueblo, Rio Arriba County, City of Española, City of Santa Fe, Santa Fe County, San Ildefonso Pueblo, Santa Clara Pueblo, Taos County and Town of Taos voting in favor and none voting against and Tesuque Pueblo abstaining.

M. Discussion and Consideration of Re-approval of Award of Bid Construction - ADA Compliance of Bus Stops

Mr. Mortillaro said there were some changes in the project.

Mr. Bingham referred to page 263 in the packet. This was to award a contract to Allied 360 but he negotiated for a backhoe and that is not allowed under federal protocol which means the District has to re-award and negotiate those items to remove those things from the bid. It might not be the ultimate solution. DOT had meeting yesterday and the result is that the District will do the installation.

Mr. Mortillaro clarified that two proposed motions are included - the first (on page 264) is to award the project to Allied 360 for $162,789.47. The second is to approve the full project.

Commissioner Chávez moved to authorize the Executive Director to re-execute a contract with Allied 360 for $162,789.47. Councilor Sheehey seconded the motion.

Councilor Maestas supported the action but had a broader concern on the need to comply with ADA. So he asked if this will address all ADA compliance issues with the District.

Ms. McGuire explained that this is only step one of many more to make them fully compliant. From the federal perspective, they require the District to have a plan in place but the funding needs to be identified and flexible, based on rider demands for what should be first in line. So based on ridership, this makes the most sense. We expect over a million dollars' worth of upgrades over time.

Councilor Maestas asked if the Feds have accepted this plan.

Ms. McGuire said it is not that they accept it but they will come out as soon as we are a recipient as a triennial visit.

Councilor Maestas cautioned that we should not jeopardize future funds with a failure to meet compliance for ADA. He said if there is any way to accelerate compliance, we should do that and disclose the plan to all federal funders with priority sequence.

Mr. Mortillaro said there is a third project to continue this with TAP funds which is going out to bid for the next phase. So we do have a mechanism in place to get those improvements made.

Councilor Sheehey moved to amend the motion to add the second motion to approve. Commissioner Chávez accepted that as friendly and the motion passed by unanimous (13-0) roll call vote with Town of Edgewood, Los Alamos County, Ohkay Owingeh, Pojoaque Pueblo, Rio

Arriba County, City of Española, City of Santa Fe, Santa Fe County, San Ildefonso Pueblo, Santa Clara Pueblo, Taos County, Tesuque Pueblo, and Town of Taos voting in favor and none voting against.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

N. Financial Report for February 2016

Mr. Bingham provided the financial report which begins on page 403. Revenue exceeds expenses. Page 405 has the revised budget. It shows the biggest source of income is GRT at 65%. He briefly reviewed each individual county results. In his report, he noted that there are only seven more buses to be delivered.

The Board had no questions regarding the report.

O. Finance Subcommittee Report

Councilor Sheehey reported the Subcommittee looked at bylaw amendments, compensation and also at investments at their meeting.

P. Tribal Subcommittee Report

Governor Dorame announced the Subcommittee meeting is set for April 21 at 12:30 to 2:00 at Ohkay Owingeh. He said Ms. McGuire and Mr. Mortillaro don't need to attend.

Q. Executive Report and Comments from the Executive Director:

1. **Executive Report for March 2016**
2. **Performance Measures for February 2016**
3. **Ridership Report for February 2016**

Mr. Mortillaro said these reports are in the packet.

He said the status of negotiations with City of Santa Fé will be considered first at the Transportation Advisory Board, then at the Public Works Committee and on April 13, by the City Council. He will be there to respond to questions.

The Taos Ski Valley ran a separate shuttle for employees during the same period. They have reassessed that practice and are meeting this week to explore options for the District to take over the employees' transportation also.

Mr. Mortillaro asked all Board members to fill out the conflict of interest form before leaving today.

MATTERS FROM THE BOARD

Councilor Ring voiced his concern on capturing data from the ski service and indiscretion with tribes.

Ms. Carter announced the Rio Metro action to extend the free ridership for veterans. A new mobile app for the Rail Runner is to start on May 15th. They are now working on a second anniversary ceremony for the Rail Runner. That anniversary is July 17, 2016. But they will be celebrating it on July 14. She thanked everyone for their support to Rio Metro which was selected as provider.

Councilor Maestas added comments on the process of legislation for the City of Santa Fé to merge with the District. He is the primary sponsor. It would be helpful to incorporate Santa Fé personnel in the election process and assure the Council on the selection of the consultant for the feasibility study. He hoped the proposal will pass at City Council. They need to be assures of adequate representation in the merged entity.

Mr. Mortillaro agreed.

MISCELLANEOUS - none

ADJOURN

Councilor Ring moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Fambro seconded and it passed without exception.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:18 p.m. **NEXT BOARD MEETING: May 6, 2016 at 9:00 a.m.**

Approved by:

Daniel R. Barrone, Chair

Attest:

Dennis Tim Salazar, Secretary

Submitted by:

Carl Boaz for Carl G. Boaz, Inc.